

The Brooklyn Paper

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WATCH THIS SPACE

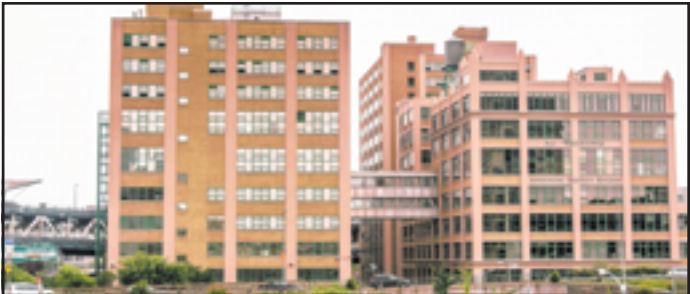
Watchtower unloads its DUMBO properties for \$375 million

By Jaime Lutz
The Brooklyn Paper

One of DUMBO's largest landowners is moving out — and it has sold its property for a song.

The Watchtower Bible and Tract Society, better known as the Jehovah's Witnesses, has unloaded six factory-style buildings in the booming neighborhood for \$375 million, a discounted price that has experts believing the tall, fat structures won't be converted into expensive condos anytime soon.

"I suspect that these will be kept for [office use]," said Stevie Palmese, a re-



These Watchtower buildings in DUMBO are among the six properties being sold for \$375 million by the Watchtower Bible and Tract Society.

altor with Massey Knakal who claimed the city would not change zoning to allow residential in the massive footprint.

The cluster of six properties located at 117 Adams St. between Sands and York streets; 175 Pearl St. between Sands and High streets; 55 Prospect St. between Adams and Pearl streets; 81 Prospect St. between Pearl and Jay streets; 77 Sands St. between Pearl and York streets, and 90 Sands St. between Pearl and Jay streets, which are zoned for manufacturing and commercial use, could

See **SALE** on page 6

Historic ferry finds new home in Hook

By Natalie Musumeci
The Brooklyn Paper

Hoboken's loss is Brooklyn's gain.

A beloved 107-year-old ferryboat booted out of its Hoboken home on the Hudson River last week has found refuge in Red Hook.



The history-rich SS Yankee was tugged over to its new home at the Gowanus Bay Terminal on July 2, after becoming homeless.

"We had nowhere to go," said owner Victoria MacKen-

zie-Childs. "This was a way for Yankee to exist."

MacKenzie-Childs and her husband, Richard, are both artists and have owned the boat for the past 12 years. Said to

be the oldest known ferryboat in the country, the U.S. Navy commissioned it during World Wars I and II to be a patrol boat. During the 1920s, it shuttled thousands of newly-arrived immigrants from Ellis Island to New York City.

After spending eight years docked at a private pier in Hoboken, the steel-hulled passenger vessel was forced, in the wake of Hurricane Sandy, to relocate to a pier owned by the New Jersey city. In March, the

See **BOAT** on page 12



Victoria MacKenzie-Childs, owner of the historic SS Yankee ferryboat, is happy that the vessel has found a potentially permanent home in Red Hook.



Runner Nakaia Mair of East Flatbush loves to hydrate with the new bottle-filling fountains in Prospect Park.

FILL'ER UP!

New fountains in P'Park let drinkers top-off water bottles

By Natalie Musumeci
The Brooklyn Paper

Thirsty Prospect Park-goers will no longer have to worry about germ-spreading spigot-suckers or thirsty dogs slobbering all over the spout

now that new, bottle-friendly bubblers are being unveiled.

Brooklyn's backyard plans to replace some of its standard drinking fountains — the kind dogs can easily drink from — with the new ones.

See **WATER** on page 11



The retailer was originally supposed to come in 2009.

H&M finally opens on Fulton Mall

By Jaime Lutz
The Brooklyn Paper

Fulton Mall is beginning to look more like a "mall."

Last week snazzy European retailer H&M became the newest addition to this once-blighted

strip of Downtown near the intersection of Bridge Street. The store held an opening day block party, which was attended by hundreds of people.

"It's part of the revitalization of the area and it's part of our extension plan," said Nicole Chris-

tie, a spokeswoman for the budget clothing company.

Although this is the second H&M in the borough, the Fulton Mall location is now the company's flagship store in Brooklyn. In 2001, it opened a store in King's Plaza.

Over the last decade, Fulton Mall has undergone a transformation. It's become the home of Brooklyn's first Shake Shack restaurant and now houses shopping center staples like the Gap, Armani Exchange, and Swarovski Crystal.

H&M helped sparked this revitalization by announcing in 2008 its intention to open a store on the mall. The company had planned to open by 2009, but was thwarted by nearby infrastructure construction, said Christie.

A VERY WET & WILD FOURTH OF JULY IN CONEY ISLAND

'JAWS' REIGNS SUPREME

Chestnut shatters records at Nathan's hot dog contest

By Scott Hansen
for The Brooklyn Paper

Four thousand one hundred and ninety-two hits. One hundred points in one basketball game. A 56-game hitting streak.

Forget all those numbers, as they have been rendered meaningless.

The new standard is 69 — the quantity of hot dogs and buns Joey "Jaws" Chestnut ate in 10 minutes during sport's most grueling event.

Chestnut stuffed the 69th in his mouth just as time expired



Joey "Jaws" Chestnut en route his seventh victory.

to shatter his previous record of 68 franks that the now-seventime winner of Nathan's Fourth of July Hot Dog Eating contest had reached twice before.

Three words explain the feat best: amazing, incredible, and, most appropriately, disgusting.

Matt "Megatoad" Stoney was the only other eater who challenged Chestnut in the contest. Stoney started with an early lead, but couldn't keep up with the metronome pace set by Jaws. Stoney finished in second place

See **JAWS** on page 13

Shaky Astro Tower is torn down

By Will Bredderman
The Brooklyn Paper

The Astro Tower looks much more earthbound now.

On July 4, amid fears that the defunct rotating observation

tower would topple over, the city and Luna Park, which surrounds the tower, tore down the pole that stood 270 feet tall.

Longtime Coney Island-ers said they were heartbroken

to see it gone. The tower was the last vestige of Astroland, a space-themed amusement area that opened in 1962 and came down in 2009 to make way for Luna Park.

"I'm very sad about it, and I'm sure anybody with any history in Coney Island is too," said Carol Albert, whose late husband Jerry Albert founded As-

See **TOWER** on page 12



Everyone in the water!

Thousands of people escaped the sweltering 90-degree heat on the Fourth of July by taking a dip in the ocean at Coney Island.

Third-rail death

Cops: Man and his friend jumped down onto the tracks to urinate

By Danielle Furfaro
The Brooklyn Paper

A drunk man died early Monday morning when he jumped onto the tracks of the G train to relieve himself and ended up electrocuting him-

self on the third rail.

Matthew Zeno, 30, was taken to Woodhull Hospital and declared dead on arrival from electrocution. A friend who tried to pull Zeno away from the

See **DEATH** on page 13



A man electrocuted himself when he climbed down onto the tracks at the Broadway station of the G train.

LICH nurses turn to yoga

Nurses association seeks experts to help with morale

By Jaime Lutz
The Brooklyn Paper

Facing unemployment, the medical staff of Long Island College Hospital is taking a deep breath and saying "om."

The New York State Nurses Association is asking yoga instructors, zumba teachers, and others to share skills or their area of expertise in order to boost the

morale of the hospital's caregivers.

Several weeks ago, the State University of New York defied a court order and amputated the troubled institution by cutting off ambulance service to its emergency room.

"In an effort to keep spirits up, we are planning classes at the hospital for the dedicated NYSNA and 1199 [union] members [who] continue to staff the hos-

pital and are reporting for duty day and night," said Michelle Green, a member of the Nurses Association, in an email to involved community members.

Eliza Bates, a spokeswoman for the New York State Nurses Association, said that the union was also going to be giving continuing-education classes for nurses at the hospital. Now that the

See **LICH** on page 13



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THE WORLD'S BEST CYCLONES COVERAGE

Good pitching, clutch hitting

By Scott Hansen
for The Brooklyn Paper

Cyclones 2
Staten Island 1
July 3 at MCU Park (10 innings)

Carlos “Oil-Can” Valdez and Akeel “The Cat” Morris combined to shut down the Yanks, giving up just the four hits and two walks, and striking out 10, giving the team its first win over the hated Staten Island Yankees and break their four-game losing streak.

Aberdeen 5
Cyclones 1
July 4 at MCU Park

The Cyclones’ lone run came in the fifth inning of this Fourth of July trouncing, when the Clones’ catcher Tomas Nido hit an RBI double to left field to allow James “Papa” Roche to score.

Aberdeen 6
Cyclones 5
July 5 at Aberdeen

A back-and-forth road game ended badly as the Clones lost to the IronBirds

The Ride

for the fifth-straight time.

Cyclones 5
Aberdeen 3
July 6 at Aberdeen

Patrick “To Infinity and” Biondi had a humongous night, with three runs and two RBIs and four different Cyclones’ pitchers had their hands in retiring 12 straight batters to preserve the win.

Cyclones 3
Lowell 0
July 7 at MCU Park

The Cyclones’ pitching came through for the second straight night and the Brooklyn Boys of Summer beat the Lowell Spinners 3–0 for their second shutout of the season.

Cyclones 4
Lowell 3
July 8 at MCU Park

The Cyclones exploded for a three-run second in-



Starting pitcher Miller Diaz fires off a pitch during Sunday's shutout win against the Lowell Spinners.

ning and then scored a tie-breaking run in the eighth to stop Lowell's comeback attempt to pick up the team's third-straight win.

After Lowell tied the game in the top of the eighth, outfielder Patrick “To Infinity and” Biondi led off the bottom half with a walk. Two outs later, King hit a shot to center, where two Lowell outfielders collided, allowing the ball to fall between them and bring in Biondi in for the deciding run.

Lowell 5
Cyclones 2
July 9 at MCU Park

Cyclones manager Rich Donnelly blasted his boys for

“sloppy” play that snapped a three-game winning streak.

“It was a lack of effort today,” he said. “We had three errors, and I think all of them were on routine plays. It was just sloppy and when you do that, you deserve to lose.”

Three Brooklyn errors turned into two unearned runs for the Spinners, and Lowell dodged a sweep with the 5–2 win at MCU Park.

Clones’ second baseman L.J. “Mini-Maz” Mazzilli recorded his first and second errors of the season — the second one allowing another Lowell run in the ninth.

How to stay afloat in the big, big city

In life, as in baseball, it's sink or swim.

I volunteered as a missionary a little more than five years ago and was assigned to Las Vegas, where I worked with Spanish-speaking residents. I spent two months at a training center learning the language and developing my teaching skills before setting off for Sin City.

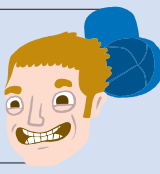
My teammate in Vegas didn't speak a lick of Spanish, and after I spoke with the first Spanish-speaking man I met, I became convinced I had been taught the wrong language. I was in a city I hadn't been to before, trying to speak a language I hardly knew, and was completely overwhelmed and unprepared. Keeping my head above water wasn't easy.

But that experience helped me immensely with my latest life's journey — my visit to Brooklyn to cover the Cyclones, where I once again find myself in a huge city, virtually alone, attempting to learn a style and a side of the professional world with which I'm not familiar. Those overwhelmed and unprepared feelings came rushing back.

But at least this time, I was used

Fast & Furious

By Scott Hansen



to them.

A few of the Cyclones players have had a similar experience with the team. During an extra-innings game on July 1 against the Staten Island Yankees, the Cyclones’ bullpen was running thin in the 11th. So manager Rich Donnelly called on shortstop Ismael Tijerina to take the mound.

Tijerina last pitched in a game in high school in his hometown of Monterrey, Mexico — more than five years ago. But T.J. didn't ask too many questions. He took the mound and pitched more than one inning, even getting a strikeout. Man, did he ever swim.

Matt Oberste grew up playing third base, but a couple of arm injuries took away the positions he was familiar with, and he ended up this year at first base — a position he had never played, and was now having to learn against profession-

als — and he'll tell you he's done a fine job on the opposite side of the field, where his job requirement is to catch balls more often than he throws them.

Tijerina, Oberste and I have all been thrown into the figurative deep end of the pool and told not just to just swim, but to do so while fully clothed. None of us have complained, however. We're out here to do whatever we're asked so we can make it to the big leagues.

I am proud to say, eight months after I spoke with that first Spanish-speaking gentleman, I became fluent in Spanish. It came through hard work, help from other people, and a little dose of miracle. Similarly, I can say with a certain degree of confidence, I have begun to understand the style and the nuances of journalism in the professional world and am on my way to increasing my own versatility. That too has only come from consistent work.

Tijerina, who will never be listed as a member of the Cyclones bullpen, and Oberste, who might return to his natural position at third base once he heals, have the opportunity to be more versatile and increase their prestige for teams in the show. But like my Spanish and my adjustment to Brooklyn journalism, they'll need to make sure they can keep their heads above water.

Hopefully, we'll all get a little dose of miracle.

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ARRESTS AT POOL

Three rowdy teens busted at McCarren Park

By Danielle Furfaro
The Brooklyn Paper

A trio of teenagers were arrested after allegedly causing chaos at McCarren Park Pool.

The pool was packed to maximum capacity late Sunday afternoon when the three young men started jumping into the pool over and over again, frightening other swimmers, and committing the cardinal pool-side sin, running near the pool, police said.

“They were acting in a dangerous manner and causing alarm to the other people in the pool,” said NYPD officer Sophia Tassy-Mason. “The way they were running around the pool, they could have hurt someone.”

Pool security told the teens to leave, but they instead started running around the pool and shoving pool pa-



trons as they dodged authorities, according to police.

When the cops showed up, the teens ran from them too, and allegedly tried to shimmy away before they were captured.

Police charged Jose Carrero, 17, with reckless endangerment, resisting arrest and disorderly conduct. They charged Guillermo Coronador, 18, with reckless endangerment and disorderly conduct. Jevone McIlwain, 19, is facing charges of assault for hitting a cop, as well as disorderly conduct.

These were the first arrests since the pool opened for the season on June 27. So far this year, the pool has been much calmer than last year, when there were several arrests in the first week that the pool was open and the city repeatedly closed it.

McCarren pool opened last month without incident, but last Sunday saw a tussle that landed three teenagers in jail.

Dead dolphin at Coney

Four have been found dead on boro’s shore this year

By Colin Mixson
The Brooklyn Paper

Maybe they’re trying to get into Green-Wood Cemetery.

A bottle-nosed dolphin was found belly up on Coney Island Beach on June 30, marking the fourth time this year humanity’s favorite sea mammals have found a terrestrial grave in the Borough of Kings.

Witnesses spotted the nearly seven-foot-long, male dolphin on the sands near W. 15th Street at 6:15 pm — although due to the creature’s advanced state of decomposition, many beachgoers smelled the sea creature before seeing him.

“It was giving off a very strong smell,” a witness told awalkintheparknyc.blogspot.com, which was first to report the death.

The dead dolphin was unceremoniously fork-lifted off the beach by Parks Department employees and deposited at a nearby Parks facility.

The following day, biologists from the Riverhead Foundation collected the poor fella’s remains. They took him to their Long Island headquarters for study, according to Rob DiGiovanni, Executive Director and Senior Biologist at Riverhead Foundation. River-



suffered severe lung-worm infection, which likely contributed to its death, according to DiGiovanni.

A conclusive cause of death, however, could not be determined because it had decomposed so much, which made taking skin samples impossible.

The stinky find marks the third dead dolphin to wind up in Brooklyn, with one famously meeting its maker after taking a dip in the Gowanus Canal. Rounding out the borough’s deceased sea mammals was a baby porpoise that washed up on Coney Island Beach in February.

With 33 stranded whales, dolphins and porpoises, the New York Harbor and Long Island area is approaching the locales’ yearly average of stranded sea mammals, although the biologists in Riverhead have yet to draw any conclusions explaining the cause of this unfortunate trend.

“It appears to be a little busy this year, but what that means is hard to determine,” said DiGiovanni.

To help the Riverhead Foundation better understand the trend, the senior biologist there is asking people to phone their hot line, (631) 369-9829, and report any dolphin sighted in the area.

Beach goers found this long-dead dolphin washed up on Coney Island’s beach on Sunday.

head rescues, rehabilitates, and releases seals, sea turtles, whales, dolphins, and porpoises.

At a necropsy conducted at the foundation on Monday, Riverhead personnel determined that the deceased dolphin



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Knife-wielding crackhead attacks woman

84TH PRECINCT
Brooklyn Heights–DUMBO–Boerum Hill–Downtown
A 50-year-old man was arrested for choking a woman and threatening her with a knife on Schermerhorn Street on July 8 — and cops say they found crack paraphernalia on the suspect during his arrest.
The victim told police that she was between Smith and Hoyt streets at 5:50 am when the suspect latched onto her neck and drew a blade. When cops arrested the suspect, they found a crack pipe and four baggies lined with the drug’s residue in his backpack, according to court documents.

Grand theft bike
Police arrested an 18-year-old man they say stole a guy’s bike from inside an Atlantic Avenue apartment building on July 5.
The victim told police that he left his bike in a hallway at the building between Bond and Nevins streets at 6:50 pm, and returned five minutes later to find it had vanished.
The victim said he’s certain the suspect took it, and said he saw the young man riding it around Atlantic Avenue in the minutes immediately following its theft, according to court documents.
— **Colin Mixson**

78TH PRECINCT
Park Slope
Wiped clean
A crook swiped a man’s fresh sack of laundry that was left in front of his First Street apartment on June 28.
The 38-year-old victim, who lives between Seventh and Eighth avenues, told cops that his laundry delivery service dropped off the large bag of clean clothes worth more than \$1,000 in front of his apartment door at 5 pm. About three hours later his

wife realized that the laundry bag was missing.
The perp got away with seven pairs of men’s underwear, seven pairs of women’s underwear, four bloomers, a pair of pants, 13 shirts, two leggings, two bras, two pairs of pajamas, seven pairs of socks, two dresses, three shorts, nine towels, 10 washcloths, and one bath mat.

Expensive loss
A bandit jacked a man’s brand-new \$50,000 car that he left parked on Saint Marks Place sometime between June 30 and July 2.
The 37-year-old man told police that he left his blue 2013 BMW on the street near Fourth Avenue on June 30 at 7 pm, and when he returned two days later at 7 pm, his pricey ride was missing.

Transit crime
A thief swiped a Metropolitan Transportation Authority employee’s bag while he was working inside the Atlantic Avenue terminal on July 7.
The 48-year-old light maintainer told police that he entered the electrical distribution room located in the lower mezzanine of the station and placed his bag down at 10 am, leaving the room unlocked.
When he returned 30 minutes later, he discovered that his blue backpack holding his cellphone, eyeglasses, 30 transit keys, screwdrivers, work helmet, and other tools, was missing.

Motorbike theft
A perp stole a man’s motorcycle parked on Seventh Street sometime between July 2 and July 3.
The 33-year-old man told cops that he left his white two-wheeler on the street near Eighth Avenue at 7 pm on July 2 and when he returned the next day at 2 pm, his ride was missing.

Looted
A bandit burglarized a woman’s Ninth Street home and made off with some pricey valuables on July 5.
The 34-year-old woman told police that she left her residence between Fourth and Fifth avenues at 1:30 pm. When she came back about eight hours later, she noticed that her laptop, Nikon digital camera, and two camera lenses were missing. The woman said that she may have left the back door open, according to cops.

Car break in
A criminal smashed the window of a car parked on Flatbush Avenue and made off with a bunch of goods and \$760 on the July 4.
The 52-year-old woman told cops that she left her tan Toyota on the street near Ocean Avenue at 7:30 am and when she returned just 45 minutes later, she found the rear passenger-side window broken. The crook made off with the woman’s cash, her purse, wallet, credit and debit cards, and cellphone.

Grab bag
A sly crook snagged a woman’s wallet from her bag while she was inside a Seventh Avenue supermarket on July 3.
The 57-year-old woman told police that she noticed her wallet, containing \$500, her debit and credit cards, and driver’s license, was missing at 7:10 pm when she went to go pay for the items she picked up at the grocery store between 12th and 13th streets.
The woman said that she last saw her wallet 10 minutes prior when she put it in her bag inside her Vanderbilt Street home, according to cops.
Shortly after, the woman received a call from her bank stating that the thief attempted to make purchases with her cards at an Atlantic Avenue department store nearby.

Computer heist
A crook stole a MacBook Pro from an employee at a Butler Street waffle business on July 2.
The victim told cops that the perp swiped the laptop from the business office of the establishment between near Third Avenue at 7:30 am.
The baseball cap-wearing miscreant was caught on surveillance video taking the computer and fleeing the scene.
— **Natalie Musumeci**

POLICE BLOTTER

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Bag swipe
A lowlife lifted a senior’s purse from a bus selling MetroCards outside a Brooklyn politician’s Fifth Avenue office on July 1, authorities allege.
The 82-year-old victim said she set her bag down on the ledge of the vending vehicle in front of the pol’s headquarters between 74th and 75th streets at 1 pm. When she returned an hour later, the pocketbook was gone.

Prep perp
A burglar stole thousands in designer accessories from a car parked near a Dyker Heights preparatory school on July 7, cops say.
The victim told police she left her vehicle between Battery and Seventh avenues at 3:20 pm to attend a baseball game. When she returned to the car after the ninth inning, she found her passenger-side window smashed and her pricey Mulberry purse, Marc Jacobs handbag, Bobby Brown make-up, Michael Kors wallet, Louis Vuitton wallet, iPhone, iPad, and \$100 in cash missing.
— **Will Bredderman**

94TH PRECINCT
Greenpoint–Northside
Ash bash
A man was arrested for allegedly beating another man with a giant ashtray on Clay Street on July 8.
The victim told police that he was between Paige Avenue and McGuinness Boulevard at 4:15 pm, arguing with the 20-year-old suspect, when the man suddenly picked up a cigarette receptacle and hit the victim in the head with it several times.
The victim suffered cuts

to the head and swelling to the hand and was taken to a hospital for treatment. The suspect was charged with second- and third-degree assault, menacing, criminal possession of a weapon and harassment.

Bike by
Two teenagers were arrested for allegedly attacking a man and a woman riding on a bicycle on N. Eighth Street on July 8 — and then stealing their backpack.
One of the two victims told the county district attorney’s office that they were riding between Driggs Avenue and Roebling Street at 2:40 am when one teen lunged at them, pulling the pair off the bicycle. He then grabbed their backpack and ran off with another teen who had been acting as lookout.
Both suspects are charged with robbery, strangulation, robbery, assault, criminal obstruction of breathing, criminal possession of stolen property, menacing and harassment.
— **Danielle Furfaro**

90TH PRECINCT
Southside–Bushwick
No phone home
A man assaulted a woman and stole her phone as she was walking home on McKibben Street on July 7.
The 22-year-old woman told police that she was near White Street at 7:30 pm when the man ran up to her, punched her in the face, and then ran off with her iPhone.
A guy who was standing nearby and witnessed the incident tried to run after the robber, but lost him.



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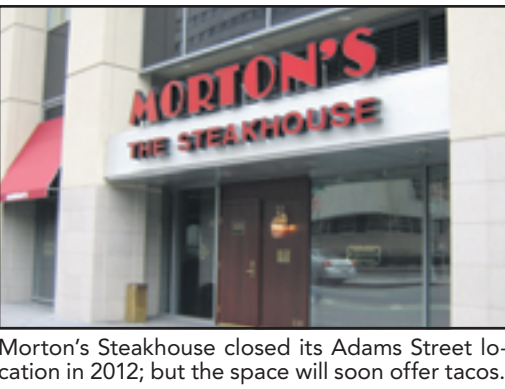


Learn more about Dr. Samadi and Lenox Hill Prostate Cancer Center.



Visit lenoxhillhospital.org/roboticoncology.





Morton's Steakhouse closed its Adams Street location in 2012; but the space will soon offer tacos.

Morton's space will go Mexican

Downtown steakhouse shell to house Florida's Rocco's Tacos next year

By Jaime Lutz
The Brooklyn Paper

There's no need to run for the border anymore. Brooklyn appears to be erupting with Mexican food restaurants. Rocco's Tacos and Tequila Bar, and potentially Chipotle Mexican Grill, will be opening new outposts Downtown. Rocco's Tacos has signed a 15-year lease for the ground floor at 339 Adams St., according to the restaurant. It's taking over the space near Fulton Street where Morton's Steakhouse — which closed in February 2012 — once resided. This will be the first New

York location for the Florida-based chain. The new restaurant is expected to open by winter 2014. On top of that, One Metrotech Center — la casa of Brooklyn Paper — is likely to get a Chipotle Mexican Grill restaurant, according to sources in the know who say the burrito bar will move in next store to the Au Bon Pain at the corner of Lawrence Street. That space was previously the home to a Chinese restaurant known to many Metroteachers as the “worst-case scenario.” The first Rocco's Tacos was founded in West Palm Beach, Fla., in 2007. But New York native Rocco Mangel has long wanted to open a restaurant in the city. It's in his blood, he says, his grandfather was the general manager of Copacabana. “I'm beyond excited to introduce the Rocco's Tacos brand to the New York market,” Mangel said. “Growing up in Long Island, I always hoped to open a restaurant in my home state. Brooklyn is a thriving borough that I love and I'm confident that we will be a great addition to the vibe and dining culture.” The Chipotle will be the third new restaurant to open in Metrotech in the past two years, joining both Five Guys Burgers and Fries and Cafe La Defense, which also has a bar.

SWINGING INTO ACTION

Day care, senior centers gets funding, but may still have to close

By Danielle Furfaro
The Brooklyn Paper

Williamsburg's Swinging Sixties Senior Center may have caught a reprieve thanks to funding provided by the City Council — but that stay of execution might end in September, because the city canceled the center's lease. At the end of the recent city budget session, the Council allocated \$570,000 to the Swinging Sixties Senior Center and \$1.2 million to the Small World Day Care Center hosted upstairs. That money will replace funding that the city cut last year for both the senior and day-care centers based in the building at the corner of Ainslie Street and Man-



More than 160 little ones attend day care at the Swinging Sixties Senior Center.

hattan Avenue. “We're thrilled that the centers were funded for this coming year,” said Greg Hanlon, spokesman for St. Nick's Alliance, a housing and community advocate organization. “We're working hard to ensure that they will remain as community resources into the future.” But when the city cancelled the day care and senior centers' contracts, it told the center that it would end its 10-year lease two years early, at the end of September 2013, said Community Board 1 member Janice Peterson. Now activists are trying to get the landlord to extend the lease. Peterson, who rallied to get the center open in the early 1970s, said she has

been talking to a variety of city and state politicians to see if they can rescind the cancellation. A source at Christine Quinn's office said it was too soon for the speaker to have any longer-term plans to help out the center. St. Nick's Alliance has even offered to purchase the building from the private landlord for \$6 million. That bid has increased by \$2 million since the group put in an initial bid in March. In the meantime, Peterson said they have been working hard to restore the building. It's been painted and cleaned, and they are replacing furniture that has been there for more than three decades. If the center's supporters can't extend the lease or buy the building, Peterson intends to tell everybody to just stay put. “We won't go,” said Peterson. “Watch them try to evict a bunch of seniors and little kids.”



Maria Montalvo can charge her phone right on the Coney Island Boardwalk.

Sun for your phone

Beaches get solar-powered charging hubs

By Colin Mixson
The Brooklyn Paper

Ladies and gentleman, the sun will now charge your phone — for free. Brooklyn beaches have always been a great place to relax and soak up the sun, but as of Tuesday, earth's favorite star will also juice up your cellular appliances thanks to several solar-powered charging stations that AT&T installed in the sandy regions of Manhattan Beach, Brighton Beach, and Coney Island. The charging stations are part of the cellular service provider's post-Sandy pilot program to make sure no storm stands in a Brooklynite's way of placing a call. “This is a direct outgrowth of superstorm Sandy,” said AT&T spokeswoman Kerri Lyon. Following the storm, AT&T's employees provided power for distribution centers throughout the borough. They quickly noticed that one of the biggest demands amongst storm-racked New Yorkers was a place to charge their phones. “They were desperate to charge their phones, and connect with family,” said Lyon. These charging stations, which boast multiple phone adapters, six chords, and are made by DUMBO tech firm Pensa, are being considered as a solution to meet Brooklyn's emergency phone charging needs — albeit, at the beach. So far, it's working well. “They've exceeded our expectations,” said Lyon. “They're not just using them, they're buzzing about them.” Where to find your nearest solar-powered phone charger: •Manhattan Beach: Oriental Boulevard and Erwin Street, near the snack stand. •Brighton Beach: On the Boardwalk at Fourth Street, near the new comfort station. •Coney Island: On the Coney Island Boardwalk at W. Eighth Street.

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Fifteen arrested at LICH protest

Rally in front of SUNY office delivers a petition with 7,000 signatures

By Melissa Goldin
for The Brooklyn Paper

Fifteen protestors, including Public Advocate Bill DeBlasio and Councilman Steve Levin (D-Williamsburg), were arrested July 10 for disorderly conduct at a midtown Manhattan rally to save Cobble Hill's Long Island College Hospital.

Levin presented a petition with 7,000 signatures to Leydi Zapata, the director of strategic engagement and branding at State University of New York Downstate Medical Center, which runs the hospital. Zapata was representing SUNY Chancellor Nancy Zimpher.

The petition, started by Assemblywoman Joan Millman (D-Carroll Gardens), demands that the state follow a temporary restraining order issued by Brooklyn Supreme Court Justice Johnny Lee Baynes that requires it to keep the institution operational and adequately staffed. The petition also called for the state to lift a controversial June 19 decision to divert ambulances from the hospital's emergency room.

DeBlasio then announced



Office of Steve Levin

Councilman Steve Levin (D-Williamsburg) was among 15 demonstrators arrested for disorderly conduct at a Manhattan protest against the state's plan to close Long Island College Hospital in Cobble Hill.

that they wouldn't leave until immediate action was taken.

"We are going to lose a vital community hospital in a matter of weeks unless something changes," DeBlasio said in a written statement. "This is a moment for all New Yorkers to stand up and fight, and I'm proud to do my part."

Police arrested the 15 protesters and took them to Midtown South Precinct after warning the throng that anyone who didn't step back would be detained.

"By getting arrested, we are sending a message that

SALE...

Continued from page 1

become a major player in the so-called Brooklyn Tech Triangle, which Downtown policy-makers are touting as the next Silicon Valley.

"These properties feature large, creative office space right in the heart of the growing Brooklyn Tech Triangle," said Jared Kushner, chief executive officer of Kushner Companies, which purchased the buildings. "We look forward to playing a key role in the continued improvement of the neighborhood and advancement of the market."

The fact that the properties won't become a mixed-used of housing and commercial spaces scared off some potential buyers — including Two Trees Management, which famously converted manufacturing space to residences during the 1990s, reviving a neighborhood as it shed its industrial past.

Two Trees head Jed Walentas said his company did put in a bid for the land — but

it was even lower than the one finally accepted by the Witnesses.

The Watchtower, which did not return calls for comments by press time, has been working for the last decade to move more than 30 of its properties in Brooklyn Heights and DUMBO as it moves its operations upstate. Its property in Brooklyn has been used for more than a century to house sect members and run a printing press — and it has been selling them off since 2004 for massive profits.

One of the first to go, 360 Furman St. — now One Brooklyn Bridge Park — went for \$205 million back in 2004. Late last year, the Bossert Hotel on Montague Street at Hicks Street — where the Brooklyn Dodgers celebrated their World Series championship in 1955 — sold for \$81 million. It will be turned back into a hotel after spending years as a dorm for Watchtower members.

The most recent sale involves buildings that have been owned by the Watchtower Bible and Tract Society for about a century. All the buildings all have M1-6 zoning, meaning that they are limited to manufacturing or commercial use. They will be redeveloped in partnership with LIVWRK Holdings, according to a statement from the companies.

Kushner and RFR, which jointly purchased the property, did not respond to requests for additional comment.

The sale, which will return the buildings to the tax roll once a non-religious organization takes control, could even have an effect on the amount of condominiums that are constructed inside Brooklyn Bridge Park.

Park backers have for years hoped that the city would consider building less housing in the park if new property tax dollars raised once the Jehovah's Witnesses moved out of the area could offset the costs of running the greenspace.

we will not tolerate SUNY's disturbing disregard of the court's orders," Levin said in a written statement. "LICH provides vital healthcare to our community and must be kept open for care."

In addition to DeBlasio and Levin, the protestors arrested included New York State Nurses Association Executive director Jill Furillo; president-elect Judy Sheridan-Gonzalez; Jess Stravone, a member of the Cobble Hill Association; and nine hospital employees. All 15 were released hours after the arrests.

And the protestors said it was worth it to them to get locked up.

"If this is going to help the hospital stay open I'll do it again, and again, and again," said nurse Leonicha Williams after she was released.

The rally was attended by approximately 200 people, according to union spokeswoman Eliza Bates. It was held in front of the site of the state's first vote to close the hospital in February — Zimpher's office at the School of Optometry on W. 42nd Street between Fifth

and Sixth avenues. The rally was organized by the nurses association and 1199 Service Employees International Union, a healthcare workers union.

"Today, 15 of us were arrested for standing up for our patients," Furillo said in a written statement. "But, perhaps law enforcement should have detained SUNY executives, who have put greedy real estate deals before the needs of our community, who have flouted court orders, and who have failed to make good faith efforts to find a new operator for LICH."

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B61 to Wythe Ave. and Bedford Ave.



Chelcey Berryhill and Elizabeth Finkelstein are giving tours of Brooklyn's wooden houses from the 19th century, as part of their Wooden House Project.

Neighbor-woods

By Samantha Lim
for The Brooklyn Paper

You won't hear shouts to get off these lawns — because they're actually sidewalks. A group is conducting tours of Brooklyn's wood-framed row houses, and the home owners — who often put in a lot of effort to restore these unique buildings — don't seem to mind the attention, say the guides.

"One time, this woman hung her head out of a window and asked, 'What are you doing?' We shouted, 'We love your house!'" said Chelcey Berryhill, one of the contributors to the Wooden House Project website, which blogs about these antique homes and organizes neighborhood tours.

"She invited us inside to show us the backyard. It's really great to see homeowners get excited. Their faces light up because no one ever appreciates their work. Restoring a house is hard!"

Brooklyn is known for its brownstone buildings, but their wooden predecessors once filled the borough. According to Elizabeth Finkelstein, founder of the Project, the older wood-framed houses are usually in the same neighborhoods as brownstones, and can be identified by their vinyl sidings.

But the construction of the houses was made illegal due to the fire hazard they posed. Candle-lit homes of the 19th century meant brownstone was a safer material, though it wasn't just the wooden homes' flammable frames that distinguished these structures from later living spaces — it was

Check out these old houses

Among Brooklyn's famous brownstones are the even older wooden homes that owners are proud to restore and show off. Here are three examples in Park Slope:



Artsy restoration

Wood-frame row houses provide the perfect palette for experimentation with color and detail. In recent years, owners have gotten highly creative with ornamentation, removing vinyl and aluminum siding and looking to the Victorian era for inspiration.

337 12th St. between Fifth and Sixth avenues.



On the veranda

Though few have survived, porches were an important part of many early wood-frame rowhouses in Brooklyn. As more and more people move into and restore these houses, porches may become an increasingly common sight in many parts of the borough.

457 12th St. between Eighth and Seventh avenues.



New blue life

Homeowner Lydia Robertson saw the potential in this wood-frame rowhouse when it was "hardly inhabitable" and covered in yellow aluminum siding. For economic reasons she chose to maintain the siding and paint it a brilliant shade of blue.

295 13th St. between Fifth and Sixth avenues.

also their size and extravagance.

"A lot of these houses were built in the late to mid-19th century, which was the height of the Victorian era, so there was this idea that you had to fill up as much space as you could," said Berryhill.

"Owners put up all these ornate, beautiful details, making them look like gingerbread houses."

According to Finkelstein, the passion for these houses and their aesthetics is very much alive in their current owners.

"A lot of the people who live in the houses we're talking about performed renovations with their own two hands. It's a labor of love," she said.

The hard work can be appreciated by anyone who cares to walk down the streets where these houses stand. While brownstones evoke a romantic Hollywood version of New York City, the wooden houses provide a stranger and less familiar experience of Brooklyn.

"They completely change the feel of the

streetscape," said Berryhill. "When you walk down a street and see these beautiful rows of antique houses, they give you this really great feeling of comfort."

Both Finkelstein and Berryhill became acquainted while at Pratt University. Their shared love for vernacular architecture has kept their friendship steadfast.

"The Great Wooden Houses of Greenpoint," [Meeting location provided with registration, (347) 292-7246, www.woodenhouseproject.com]. July 22, 6 pm, \$15.

MOVIE

Glass bite

Even with the music, you will still be able to hear the screams.

The Philip Glass Ensemble will perform its soundtrack to the 1931 "Dracula" movie at Celebrate Brooklyn while the original film is projected on the big screen.

The music, which Glass composed more than 60 years after the movie was made, is the only one the classic monster movie has ever had.

When director Tod Browning — of "Freaks" fame — made "Dracula" in 1931, "talkies" were

still a new phenomenon and soundtracks were not yet a consideration in making movies. Other than in the titles in the beginning and a scene in a concert hall in the middle of the movie, it is all dialogue from start to finish.

"At that time, there were still organs in theaters, so there may have been people playing along," said Michael Riesman, musical director and keyboardist of the Philip Glass Ensemble.

In the 1990s, Universal Studios contacted Glass and asked him to write a soundtrack for the film.

The studio then released the soundtrack on a CD and re-released the movie on VHS with the new soundtrack. Today, the film is available on DVD with both versions.

Glass asked Kronos Quartet to record the soundtrack in the studio.

But when he asked them to take the one hour and 25 minute piece on tour, they insisted on having other musicians fill out the arrangements. So, Glass brought in Riesman and a few other musicians.

In the past 10 years, the ensemble has performed the soundtrack at least 50 times. There are a handful of different arrangements, including the woodwind-heavy version that the ensemble will perform in Prospect Park.

"The string version lacks the colors we get," said Riesman. "The woodwinds are creepier and more lugubrious."

Dracula with the Philip Glass Ensemble at Prospect Park Bandshell | Entrance at Prospect Park West and 9th Street, (718) 683-5600, www.bricartsmedia.org | July 13 at 7:30 pm, free.

— Danielle Furfaro

EVENT

Risque bros.

The circus is in town — but don't bring the kids.

"Boys' Night," an all-male show that combines burlesque with the circus, has acrobatics, entertainment, and thrills galore.

It's also 21-plus.

"There's nothing dirty or filthy about it, but it's a little naughty," said producer and performer Ben Franklin, which he quickly confirmed — in a no-nonsense fashion — is his real name.

Whether your adult sensibilities will find the show naughty, it's hard to say. Franklin is tight-lipped about what to expect for this performance, except that it will revolve around the theme of summer. In past versions of the seasonal show the performers have melded burlesque and circus performance with comedic results.

"It was a bull matador act performed by two guys — you had this acrobatic strip done by the matador," he said.

"It's all about the creativity and the foresight. What can you do to make it more burlesque?"

Male burlesque — often called "boylesque" by fans — is still far less common than the hipster-approved female equivalent.

But Franklin thinks the scene is on the rise. There's the New York Boylesque Festival, now in its second year, to celebrate strip-teasing without the visceral thrill of a bouncy boob tassel.

But "cirquelesque" is a word that Franklin coined, and he thinks it's unique.

"We wanted to put on a circus act with a wink and a smile," Franklin said.

Boys' Night: An All-Male Cirquelesque Revue at Galapagos Art Space | 16 Main St. at Water Street in DUMBO, (718) 222-8500, galapagosartspace.com | Aug. 2, 8:30 pm, \$20.

— Jaime Lutz



Boys' Night show

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WHERE TO GO

EDITORS' PICKS

FRIDAY
July 12

Not just cheap
Free concerts by the water on Coney Island are back, courtesy of Borough President Markowitz. The first night features the classic power-rock group Cheap Trick, who after a long career as one of the most influential bands in rock history, still want you to want them.

7:30 pm at Seaside Summer Concert Series [West 21st Street and Surf Avenue in Coney Island, (718) 222-0600, www.brooklynconcerts.com]. Free.

SATURDAY
July 13

Catching the bug
The cicadas are coming! At least, that's what everyone was saying. But Brooklyn didn't see any invasion of insects, leaving hundreds, maybe thousands of nerds reeling in disappointment. Join fellow bug lovers in saying good bye to the bugs that never came, and even watch "Them," a movie about giant ants.

7:30 pm at the Bell House [149 Seventh St. between Second and Third avenues in Gowanus, (718) 643-6510, www.thebell-houseny.com]. \$10, \$12 doors.

SUNDAY
July 14

Legstrong
It's like seeing the marathon runners over a lovely brunch; there's nothing better than watching people exert themselves while drinking bloody Marys. Celebrate Bastille Day while eating french toast and rooting for the cyclists participating in the grueling Tour De France.

9 am at Branded Saloon [603 Vanderbilt Ave. at Bergen Street in Prospect Heights, (718) 484-8704, www.brandedsaloon.com].

MONDAY
July 15

Shut up
Don't let her Columbia MFA fool you — author Annie Choi is very funny. Anger is the driving force behind each of her essays in "Shut Up, You're Welcome," a collection of personal rants that would feel like over sharing if you didn't want to hear them so much, as Choi tells stories touching on family to naked neighbors.

7 pm at powerHouse Arena [37 Main St., at Water Street in DUMBO, (718) 666-3049, powerhousearena.com]. Free.

WEDNESDAY
July 17

Future fiction
Authors Chuck Wendig and T.L. Costa will discuss science fiction and their new books, "The Blue Blazes," an urban fantasy book about underworld criminals and their family issues, and "Playing Tyler," a story about a struggling kid who finds solace in what he thinks are just video games.

7 pm at Word Bookstore [126 Franklin St. at Milton Street in Greenpoint, (718) 383-0096, www.wordbrooklyn.com]. Free.

NINE DAYS IN BROOKLYN

FRI, JULY 12
FREE BEACH PARTIES ALL SUMMER LONG: Join Commander Rican Vargas and his famed Coney Island Dancers for free outdoor Boardwalk parties all summer long, with DJs spinning house, disco, soul, and funk. **Free.** Noon. Coney Island Boardwalk [1001 Boardwalk W, at W. 10th Street in Coney Island, (347) 496-2032], www.coneyislanddancers.com.
ART, SMALL WONDER: Ground Floor Gallery's summer show features small art at small prices. **Free.** 6–8:30 pm. Ground Floor Gallery [343 Fifth St. in Park Slope, (718) 368-5000], www.groundfloorbk.com.
THEATER, LADY CASEAR: A theater company has made one slight change from the norm in its production of Julius Caesar, operating under the theory that a Julius by any other gender would smell as sweet — and probably even sweeter. **Free.** 7 pm. Carroll Park [Carroll Street between Court and Smith streets], smithstreetstage.org.
MUSIC, CHEAP TRICK, THE CRINGE: Check out the Cheap Trick and the Cringe at Seaside Summer Concerts. 7:30 pm. [West 21st Street and Surf Avenue in Coney Island, (718) 222-0600], www.brooklynconcerts.com/seaside.html.
FILM, TOM STATHES OUTDOOR CARTOON CARNIVAL: Come watch rare, 16mm cartoons projected at the great outdoors-themed Tom Stathes Outdoor Cartoon Carnival. The wacky, funny, and obscure cartoons were made from the 1910s to the 1930s. \$10 suggested donation. 8 pm. Launch-Pad [721 Franklin Ave. between Park and Sterling places in Crown Heights, (646) 494-7211], brooklyn-launchpad.org.
COMEDY, BATTLE OF THE SEXES: One night stands, womanizing centaurs and the Real Housewives of Brooklyn tear up the stage this summer in this hilarious sketch comedy show examining the differences between the sexes. \$20. 8 pm. Actor's Fund Arts Center [160 Schermerhorn St. in Downtown Brooklyn], holleharper.wix.com/americanandyslideshow/cp0k.
ART, BODY MAPS: The Greenpoint Gallery opens the first solo show of one of the youngest emerging artists of Brooklyn, Christine Cha. Christine's current work is the transfusion of the female torso and maps, called "Body Maps," depicting the female nude in an entire new, fascinating way. **Free.** 8 pm. Greenpoint Gallery [390 McGuinness Blvd. in Greenpoint], <https://www.facebook.com/events/461992023891486>.
MUSIC, JANN KLOSE AT PETE'S CANDY: Jann is based in the Bronx, and has often joined writing partner Gary Lucas at his shows in Brooklyn in recent years. **Free.** 9 pm. Pete's Candy Store [709 Lorimer St. at Richardson Street in Williamsburg, (718) 302-3770], www.petescandystore.com.

Jazz with a twist: The Hot Sardines, a foot-stomping, high-energy, 10-member jazz troupe, will be performing at a free concert series at Kingsborough Community College on July 20.

FAMILY
PLAY STREETS: Features activities include Double Dutch jump rope, hopscotch, nok hockey and basketball as well as art and crafts. Play streets closed on July 26. **Free.** 9 am–5 pm. Fox Playground [E. 52nd St. and Avenue H in Midwood], www.palnyc.org.
VOLLEY BALL CLINIC: Kids learn about the sport. For children 7 to 12 years old. **Free.** 10 am–noon. Pier 6 [Furman St. in Red Hook], <http://www.nycgvparks.org>.
JAVAKA STEPTOE: The eclectic artist brings his brand of children's literature to the park. **Free.** 10:30 am. Brower Park [Brooklyn Ave. at Prospect Place in Crown Heights], www.cityparksfoundation.org.
RISE THE CAROUSEL: Yeah it's open; the beautiful 101 year old ride is up and running for little children to enjoy. \$2 per ride. 12–5 pm. Prospect Park Audubon Center [Enter park at Lincoln Road and Ocean Avenue in Prospect Park], www.prospectpark.org/audubon.
BLOOMING NATURALIST: Make your own journal, learn how to use binoculars and field guides. **Free.** 2–3 pm. Prospect Park Audubon Center [Enter park at Lincoln Road and Ocean Avenue in Prospect Park, (718) 287-3400], www.prospectpark.org/audubon.
"YOU'RE A GOOD MAN, CHARLIE BROWN": Based on the comic strip Peanuts by Charles Schulz. **Free.** 7 pm. The Old Stone House [Third St. between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Park Slope, (718) 768-31905], www.theoldstonehouse.org.
"MR. POPPERS PENGUINS": Bring a chair or blanket enjoy refreshments and take a chance on a fifty/fifty raffle. **Free.** 8 pm. Narrows Botanical Gardens [Shore Rd. at 71st Street in Bay Ridge, (718) 748 4810].

SAT, JULY 13
TOUR, STARCHITECTS OF YORE: A new Green-Wood Historic Fund trolley tour will shine a spotlight on some of the most renowned and revered architects of the 19th century. \$20. 1–3 pm. Green-Wood Cemetery [Fifth Avenue and 25th Street in Green Wood Heights, (718) 768-7300], www.green-wood.com.
MUSIC, MOTLEY CRUE TRIBUTE BAND: Watch as Girls Girls Girls, an all-female Motley Crue tribute band, transforms Brooklyn Bowl into the Sunset Strip in 1984. Girls Girls Girls covers all eras of Motley Crue without trying to emulate one specific look while retaining some of their own originality in the process. \$8-\$10. 6 pm. Brooklyn Bowl [61 Wythe Ave. between N. 11th and N. 12th streets in Williamsburg, (718) 963-3369], www.brooklyn-bowl.com.
THEATER, LADY CASEAR: 7 pm. See Friday, July 12.
MUSIC, HARMONY IN PROCESS: Tutuma Social Club and the Gabriel Alegria Afro Peruvian Sextet are bringing talented artists together at HLP — Harmony in Process. \$15. 7 pm. Shapeshifter Lab [18 Whitwell Ave., (917) 681-3289], hip.splashthat.com/#/.
THEATER, GAME PLAY FESTIVAL: A novel play inspired by the post-apocalyptic "Fallout" and dystopian "Bioshock" video game franchises, which is coming to the Brick Theater in July, as a part of the Game Play Festival, sticks to its dark source material and has a morbid sense of humor. \$15. 7 pm. Brick Theater

Find lots more listings online at BrooklynPaper.com/Events

[579 Metropolitan Ave. between Lorimer Street and Union Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 285-3863].

NOSTALGIA RIDES: Hop on board and take a trip back in time. Board an IRT Low Voltage train and travel to Pelham Bay Park then visit the museum's vintage buses. \$50, (\$25 children); \$35 members (\$20 children members). 10 am – 5 pm. New York Transit Museum [Boerum Place at Schermerhorn Street in Downtown, (718) 694-1600], www.mta.info/mta/museum.
CONCERT, THE GEORGE GEE SWING ORCHESTRA: Jump, jive, and wait to the big jazz sounds. **Free.** 8 pm. Kingsborough Community College [2001 Oriental Blvd. at Oxford Street in Manhattan Beach, (718) 368-5596], www.onstageat-kingsborough.org.

FAMILY
BLOCK PARTY: Children of all ages let their imagination soar as they explore an assortment of blocks to build with. Free with museum admission. 11:30 am. Brooklyn Children's Museum [145 Brooklyn Ave. at St. Marks Avenue in Crown Heights, (718) 735-4400], www.brooklynkids.org.
RUBY AND THE STORY: Puppet show that teaches children how to be ready in an emergency. For all ages. Free with museum admission. Noon and 1 pm. Brooklyn Children's Museum [145 Brooklyn Ave. at St. Marks Avenue in Crown Heights, (718) 735-4400], www.brooklynkids.org.
POP UP MACY'S FISHING CLINICS: Children 15 years old and younger learn how to fly fish and ecology. **Free.** Noon–5 pm. Prospect Park Audubon Center [Enter park at Lincoln Road and Ocean Avenue in Prospect Park, (718) 287-3400], www.prospectpark.org/audubon.
PINOCCHIO: For children ages 3 years old and up. The classic story comes to life on the puppet stage. \$9 (\$8 children). 12:30 and 2:30 pm. Puppetworks [338 Sixth Ave. at Fourth Street in Park Slope, (718) 965-3391], www.puppetworks.org.
HISTORY IN YOUR HANDS: Children learn how to process wool into yarn, card, spin and use a drop spindle and even make a felt ball to take home. \$3 (Children free). 1–2 pm. Lefferts Historic Homestead [452 Flatbush Ave. between Empire Boulevard and Eastern Parkway in Park Slope, (718) 789-2822], www.prospectpark.org.
EZRA JACK KEATS STORY HOUR: Gather around the Peter and Willy statue for story telling and adventure. **Free.** 1–3 pm. Imagination Playground [Ocean Avenue and Lin-

See 9 DAYS on page 10

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1 Metrotech Center North, Suite 1001, Brooklyn NY 11201 (718) 260-2500

PUBLISHER
Celia Weintrob (718) 260-4503

EDITORIAL STAFF
EDITOR
Vince DiMiceli (718) 260-4508
ARTS EDITOR
Sol Park (718) 260-8309
STAFF REPORTERS
Danielle Furfaro (718) 260-2511
Jaime Lutz (718) 260-8310
Colin Mixson (718) 260-4514
Natalie Musumeci (718) 260-4505

ADVERTISING STAFF
DISPLAY ADVERTISING SALES
Jay Pelc (718) 260-2570
Andrew Mark (718) 260-2578
CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING SALES
Michael Filippi (718) 260-4501
OFFICE MANAGER
Lisa Malwitz (718) 260-2594
PRODUCTION STAFF
ART DIRECTOR
Leah Mitch (718) 260-4510
WEB DESIGNER
Sylvan Migdal (718) 260-4509
PRODUCTION ARTIST
Earl Ferrer (718) 260-2528

PUBLISHER EMERITUS Ed Weintrob

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Listed:

SRDS

Do not take the trash

Documentary focuses on plight of scrap-haulers

By Natalie Musumeci
The Brooklyn Paper

One man’s trash is another man’s treasure — though not legally.

A Cobble Hill filmmaker’s documentary looks at the legal consequences people face for collecting recyclable materials off the street for cash.

The movie, called “Mettle” and directed by first-time filmmaker Andy Arrow, features scrap-haulers hit with thousands of dollars in fines for “theft” of discarded household appliances and other recyclable stuffs left at the curb for pickup by the Department of Sanitation.

“It was a complete surprise — I was like, ‘Are you kidding me,’” said Arrow, who had no idea that once you put those materials out on the street in any of the five boroughs they become the city’s property under law.

The 57-year-old graphic designer began investigating the matter after his heavy-duty air conditioner, which he left discarded on the sidewalk, was mysteriously picked up within minutes.

“By the time I got upstairs, it was gone,” he said. “There was no sanitation truck.”

Curious Arrow decided to take his new handheld video camera out and walked the streets of the Brownstone Brooklyn neighborhood in search of who might have picked up the metal appliance.

What Arrow thought would be a mere 10-minute YouTube video turned into an hour-long documentary that he made for less than \$1,000 over the span of a year-and-a-half.

Using the average camcorder, Arrow interviewed and followed around trash-



Mettle man: Andy Arrow’s documentary “Mettle” is about the people who collect recyclable materials left curbside, and are getting fined for it. The film is premiering at the Jalopy Theater on July 28.

pickers who scour Brooklyn streets for discarded household items like ironing boards, refrigerators, microwaves, and other metal objects that they trade in at local scrapyards for cold hard cash.

“What they told me was quite surprising,” said Arrow, that the scrap-haulers often get ticketed and could even get arrested in some cases for picking up the tossed trash.

Solomon Washington, a scrap-por of Bedford-Stuyvesant who is

MOVIE

“Mettle” premiering at the Jalopy Theater [315 Columbia St. between Hamilton Avenue and Woodhull Street, (718) 395-3214, www.jalopy.biz]. July 28, 7 pm. \$10.

featured in the documentary, said that when he first started collecting metal scrap two years ago, it was a way for him to earn a living.

Washington said that he regularly drives around in his pick-up truck and packs it with discarded scrap. Cashing in the materials could land him anywhere from \$50 to \$250 a day, he said, adding that he has been hit with summons for “hauling construction material without a license.”

It is against the law to remove by motor vehicle recyclable materials, including paper, metal, glass, and plastic bottles, from the curb that have been placed out for trash pickup, according to the Department of Sanitation.

The fine for this offense is \$2,000 and vehicle impoundment, and a \$5,000 fine for each subsequent offense within a 12-month period.

Department of Transportation spokeswoman Kathy Dawkins said that an individual picking up the trash and moving it on foot is “technically not illegal” but is “frowned upon.”

In the film, Arrow also interviewed neighbors, activists, and politicians including Councilman Brad Lander (D-Park Slope). His requests to interview the Department of Sanitation and other city agencies were denied.

Arrow said that he tried his best in the ultra low-budget documentary to present the facts without any bias opinions, but that “you feel for anybody that’s being unjustly punished, for sure.”



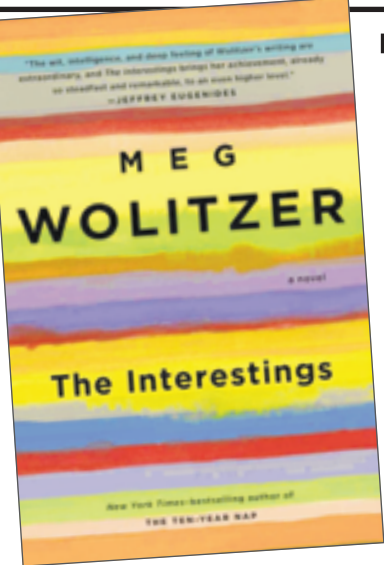
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The weekend reads

These local book shops give us their picks

WORD

“The Interestings” by Meg Wolitzer (Pictured left): This book made me feel like I was back in the ’80s, maybe watching “The Breakfast Club.” The characters were people I knew, they were me, they were my people, and they have stuck with me. It’s just everything a good read should be.

— Christine Onorati, WORD [126 Franklin St. at

Milton Street in Greenpoint, (718) 383-0096, www.wordbrooklyn.com].

BookMark

“Big Girl Panties” by Stephanie Evanovich: This debut comedic and romantic novel is full of uproarious laughs and tender moments. It’s the perfect summer read.

— Bina Valenzano, co-owner, The BookMark Shoppe [8415 Third Ave. between 84th and 85th streets in Bay Ridge, (718) 833-5115, www.

bookmarkshoppe.com].

Greenlight

“The Faraway Nearby” by Rebecca Solnit: Fans of Solnit’s fiercely intelligent writing will enjoy reading these essays about fairy tales to troubled relationships.

— Jessica Stockton Bagnulo, Greenlight Bookstore [686 Fulton St. between S. Elliott Place and S. Portland Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 246-0200, www.greenlight-bookstore.com].

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Busking in the lime light

Street performers get together at Williamsburg show

By Colin Mixson
The Brooklyn Paper

Fight for your right — to sing in the subways.

The King of the Underground, Mr. Subway Idol himself, the 18-year-veteran street and rail singer-songwriter Theo Eastwind has once again assembled a crack team of public performers for the third-ever Busker Ball at Spike Hill on July 24, an exhibition of what he says are the city's finest soldiers in the fight for our freedom of expression.

"Buskers are on the front line of the First Amendment," said Eastwind.

"No one sitting behind a desk has to worry about a cop coming over and harassing them. I mean buskers are immigrants half the time, and they have to educate the cops on America's freedom of speech."

Eastwind's freedom-loving sentiments aside, the Busker Ball is bound to be a great night for music lovers too, and just because these musicians are more used to a subway platform than a stage, there's no reason to doubt their musical prowess.

"The event is really designed so that folks know, if you're chosen to play, you're an excellent musician," he said.

MUSIC

Busker Ball at Spike Hill [186 Bedford Ave. between N. Sixth and N. Seventh streets in Williamsburg, (718) 218-9737, spikehill.com] July 24, 7 pm. \$10 suggested donation.

"You are an established busker, who I saw in subway and knew was exceptionally good."

But there are some young buck buskers out there that Eastwind hasn't been able to rope into his growing concert series — rakish, street-bound rogues with too much pride to play on anyone else's time.

Bird Courage, a busker band known to frequent the Metropolitan Avenue stop along the G line, respectfully decline Eastwind's offer to play the ball, despite \$50 worth of encouragement.

"Call it musician's ego," said Eastwind

That's not to say he doesn't have some classy acts lined up, including Gabriel Royal, which Eastwind likened to a certain British band of some notoriety.

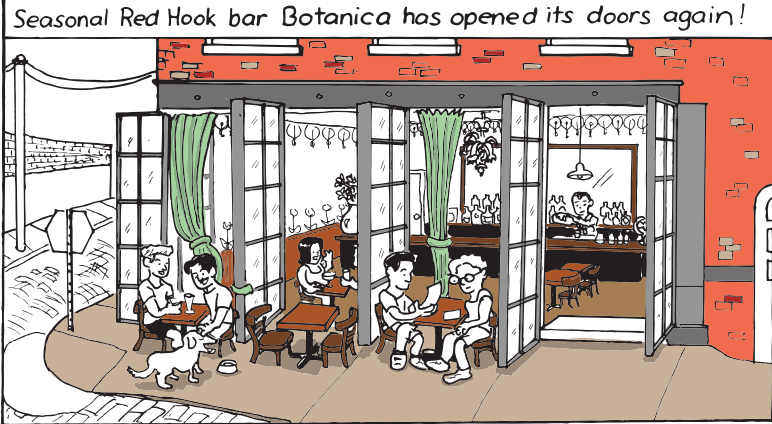
"He's like the Beatles, only modern," he said.

Think of that. You might see the Beatles playing in the subway one of these days.



Havin' a ball: Theo Eastwind, a street performer of 18 years, has arranged a lineup of excellent buskers for the third-annual Busker Ball at Spike Hill on July 24.

BAR SCRAWL By Bill Roundy



*Cacao Rum + Widow Jane Whiskey

Botanica [220 Conover St., at Coffey Street in Red Hook. (347) 225-0148.] Open Tue–Sun, 5 pm–2 am; Mon, closed.

9 DAYS...

Continued from page 8

coln Road in Prospect Lefferts Gardens), www.prospectpark.org.

CAMPING: Urban rangers help you set up camp and have a night under the stars. **Free.** 6 pm to 7 am. Salt Marsh Nature Center [3302 Avenue U in Marine Park, (718) 421-2021].

"THE LORAX": Outdoor showing of the children's movie. **Free.** 8 pm. McCarren Play Center [776 Lorimer St. in Williamsburg, (718) 965-8935].

SUN, JULY 14

SINGLES, FRIEND GROUP: Group forming for women 48 to 65 to go to movies, lunch, dinner, shows and trips. Meet each week. No walk-ins - Reservations a must. 2 pm. El Greco Dinner [Sheepshead Bay Rd. and Emmons Avenue in Sheepshead Bay, (718) 336-7908].

FILM, "LIVING FOR 32": Come view the 2010 documentary "Living for 32," the story of Colin Goddard, a survivor of the 2007 Virginia Tech shootings. The documentary will be followed by a panel discussion about gun violence and laws. **Free.** 7 pm. Bay Ridge Jewish Center [405 81st St. between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Bay Ridge, (718) 836-3103], bayridgejewishcenter.org.

READING, VISITATION STREET: Author Ivy Pochoda's second title in Dennis Lehane's line of books is set against the rough-hewn backdrop of the Red Hook, Brooklyn waterfront, in which the disappearance of a teenaged girl sends shock waves through her community. 7 pm. Bait and Tackle bookstore [320 Van Brunt St.]

THEATER, LADY CASEAR: 7 pm. See Friday, July 12.

FREE YOGA: Enjoy the summer weather with some free yoga at Prospect Park with YogaSole. Enter at the Bartel Pritchard Lot, 15th St. (adjacent to 15th St F train station), just across from the Pavilion Movie Theater. Walk straight ahead, down the drive to the main loop. **Free.** 10–11 am. Prospect Park [15th Street Bartle Pritchard Square, (718) 541-1382], yogasole.com.

FAMILY

PENGUIN YOUNG READERS SERIES: Edward Hemingway's book the Bad Apple. Free with museum admission. 12:30 pm. Brooklyn Children's Museum [145 Brooklyn Ave. at St. Marks Avenue in Crown Heights, (718) 735-4400], www.brooklynkids.org.

SALES AND MARKETS

FLEA MARKETS: A fun filled afternoon where families can bargain hunt, clothes, memorabilia, and much more. **Free.** 8 am–3 pm. Richmond Hill [117-09 Hillside Ave. in Richmond Hill, (347) 709-7661], www.richmondhillfleaemarket.com.

MON, JULY 15

FREE BEACH PARTIES ALL SUMMER LONG: Noon. See Friday, July 12.

FAMILY

CITYPARKS GOLF: Children 6 to 16 learn how to play golf. **Free.** 9:30 am–noon. Marine Park (Ave. S and E. 32nd Street in Marine Park).

TUES, JULY 16

FAMILY

CITYPARKS GOLF: Children 6 to 16 learn how to play golf. **Free.** 9:30 am–noon. Marine Park (Ave. S and E. 32nd Street in Marine Park).

STRAPHANGERS HANGOUT: Program for special needs children 3 to 5 years old. \$10 each session. 10:15–11:15 am. New York Transit Museum [Boerum Place at Schermerhorn Street in Downtown, (718) 694-1600], www.mta.info/mta/museum.

"HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA": Animated movie featuring the voices of Adam Sandler. **Free.** 8 pm. Floyd Bennett Field [Flatbush Ave. at Aviator Road in Marine Park, (718) 965-8935].

SALES AND MARKETS

SIDEWALK SALE: New and used items. Flea Market. **Free.** 10 am–4 pm. Guardian Angel Church [Ocean Parkway and Oceanview Avenue in Sheepshead Bay, (718) 907-3478].

WED, JULY 17

WORKSHOP, UPHOLSTERY CLASS: Bring that chair you've been wanting to make better to this four-week class and Annie Evelyn

will show you how to give it new life. Over the course you will completely re-upholster a chair from start to finish. \$275. 6:30–8:30 pm. BIGNYC Gowanus [69 Ninth St. in Gowanus, (718) 725-8925], www.bignyc.org/workshop.

FAMILY

NIM AND THE WAR EFFORT: Recycling is not new. Children learn how it got started in World War II. **Free.** 1–2 pm. Ryan Visitor Center, Jamaica Bay Park (Flatbush Ave. and Aviation Rd. in Marine Park), www.nycgovparks.org.

THE COLOSSAL CHALLENGE: Climb, jump and discover. Free with museum admission. 3:30 pm. Brooklyn Children's Museum [145 Brooklyn Ave. at St. Marks Avenue in Crown Heights, (718) 735-4400], www.brooklynkids.org.

THURS, JULY 18

FILMS, SYFY MOVIES WITH A VIEW: Check out this free, outdoor film series. This year's theme, "With Love From..." includes "Ferris Bueller's Day Off," "Enter the Dragon," "Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory," "8 Mile," "Roman Holiday," "Rocky," and "Vertigo." **Free.** 6 pm. Brooklyn Bridge Park (Pier 1; Old Fulton Street, (718) 802-0603), www.brooklynbridgepark.org.

MUSIC, LYNRYD SKYNYRD: Check out Lynryd Skynyrd at Seaside Summer Concerts. 7:30 pm. [West 21st Street and Surf Avenue in Coney Island, (718) 222-0600], www.brooklynconcerts.com/seaside.html.

FILM, ROOFTOP FILMS: "Newlyweeds," a 2013 comedy about two Brooklyn stoners in a love triangle gone awry. \$13. 8 pm. Trilok Fusion Center for the Arts [143 Waverly Ave. between Myrtle and Park avenues in Clinton Hill, (718) 417-7362], rooftopfilms.com/2013/schedule/newlyweeds.

FAMILY

BIG BODY: Unzip Stuffed and learn about the stuffed character. Free with museum admission. 11 am. Brooklyn Children's Museum [145 Brooklyn Ave. at St. Marks Avenue in Crown Heights, (718) 735-4400], www.brooklynkids.org.

FRI, JULY 19

MUSIC, CLASSIC ALBUM NIGHT: Cathlyand Productions presents classic album night. See New York bands Jacob's Ladder, Cathy Cervenka & Friends, and Michael T & the Vanities perform three classic albums in their entirety. \$7. 8 pm. Brooklyn Bowl [61 Wythe Ave. between N. 11th and N. 12th streets in Williamsburg, (718) 963-3369], www.brooklynbowl.com.

FAMILY

WALK UP AND PADDLE: Children 6 years and older are inviting to tryout kayaking. Must be accompanied by an adult. **Free.** 9:30 am–11:30 am. Floyd Bennett Field (Flatbush Ave. at Aviator Road in Marine Park), www.nycgovparks.org.

SAT, JULY 20

DANCE, "HEY, WE SHOULD": Live dance performance by choreographers Janelle Barry, Sharyn Korey, Nicole Sabella and Jessie Stinnett. \$15. 8 pm. Shape Shifter Lab [18 Whitwell Pl at Third Avenue in Park Slope, (646) 820-9452], brownpapertickets.com.

MUSIC, THE HOT SARDINES: A unique blend of hot jazz, Dixieland and Tin Pan Alley. **Free.** 8 pm. Kingsborough Community College [2001 Oriental Blvd. at Oxford Street in Manhattan Beach, (718) 368-5000], www.onstageatkingsborough.org.

FILM, ROOFTOP FILMS: "Short Term 12," a 2013 drama that follows the staff and patients at a shelter for at-risk teens. **Free.** 8 pm. The Old American Can Factory [232 Third Street between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Park Slope, (718) 417-7362], rooftopfilms.com/2013/schedule/short-term-12.

OPEN MIC NIGHT: Singer, songwriter Oscar Albig Rodriguez hosts and headlines The Moxie Spot's weekly open mic night. All performers are welcome, including musicians, comedians, poets, and more. **Free.** 9:30 pm. The Moxie Spot [81 Atlantic Ave. between Hicks and Henry streets in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 923-9710], themoxiespot.com.

FAMILY

RIDE THE CAROUSEL: 12–5 pm. See Friday, July 12.

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BUSINESS BROOKLYN STYLE - FILM REVIEW

In Only God Forgives,
everyone is despicable

BY AVISHAI WEINBERGER

"Only God Forgives," the noir thriller that reunites director Nicholas Wind- ing Refn with his "Drive" star Ryan Gosling, is a technical marvel. The cin- ematography is gorgeous. The music is appropriately moody. The pacing is con- sistent. There's an art-house sensibility to the whole ordeal that gives the movie a unique flavor.

It's a shame that all this does little to hide a lackluster, uninvolving screen- play.

The premise is as follows. Julian (Gos- ling) and his brother Billy (Tom Burke) run a boxing club in Bangkok, which they fund with drug money they make on the side. One night, Billy is killed, his death sanctioned by a particularly violent police lieutenant named Chang (Vithaya Pan- sringarm). This sets in motion a series of events that culminate in Julian squaring off against the lieutenant.

As I said, Billy is killed towards the start of the film. What I didn't mention is the reason why. See, just before he meets his untimely demise, Billy had just finished raping and brutally murdering a teenaged girl. The man who kills him, with permission from Chang, is the girl's father.

Gee, aren't we just dying to see Billy's death avenged?

This is an issue that runs throughout the entire movie. With the exception of a prostitute who has roughly three lines and disappears part way into the film, there isn't a single character we can root for. Everyone is despicable. Chang has a sense of honor when he kills or maims his enemies, but this isn't enough to make us forgive him for extended scenes in which he calmly tortures his enemies to death Julian's mother, Crystal (Kris- tin Scott Thomas), the matriarch of the crime family, is so hateful one half ex- pects boos and hisses to materialize on

the soundtrack (though this is probably intentional).

Even our protagonist Julian is un- sympathetic. He's a drug runner who gets into brutal fights with strangers, abuses his friends, and murders. The least awful thing he does in the film is decide not to kill someone even though he can.

It's not unheard of for audiences to root for unsympathetic characters, but only if the characters in question are interest- ing people who make choices that drive the story, and I regret to inform that save for some moments here and there, Julian does not fall into that category.

Julian is a passive protagonist. Throughout most of the film, instead of pursuing a goal, he mopes and stoi- cally broods at the camera. It isn't clear what he wants to achieve, if he wants to achieve anything at all. The assumption is that he wants to avenge Billy, but he only makes motions in that direction when the opportunities to do so come to him, as opposed to the other way around. And what happens if Billy isn't avenged? I guess Julian will have no choice but to mope some more.

"Only God Forgives" clearly wants to be deep and profound, but since it can't get the audience invested in the proceed- ings, it fails to connect. The result is a series of well shot sequences of graphic, disturbing violence without having built up the goodwill to merit the gratuity, interspersed with terse dialogue that is either over the top or so ridiculously minimalistic that it often comes across as self parody. It's a movie in love with it- self that, but for a better script populated with better characters, could have been a classic. As it stands, the film is noth- ing more than an interesting and pretty failure.

Only God Forgives opens in theaters on July 19.

Marco Polo celebrates 30 years in business

By Natalie Musumeci
The Brooklyn Paper

To celebrate three decades of thriving in the borough’s rapidly changing landscape, Carroll Gardens’ famed Marco Polo Ristorante threw a 30th anniversary dinner on June 20 for nearly 100 loyal customers.

The sit-down wine-paired party was co-hosted by Borough President Markowitz and MC’ed by Carlo Scissura, the president and chief executive officer of the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce. Special guests included former Borough President Howard Golden and former congressman Ed Towns, who cut the ribbon at Marco Polo’s opening.

Legendary Brooklyn restaurateur Joe Chirico vividly remembers starting the



Photo by Stefano Giovannini

Joe Chirico gave out cigars to guests at the 30th anniversary party for his family’s Carroll Gardens Italian eatery, Marco Polo Ristorante.

famed restaurant 30 years ago. Like the Venetian explorer he named the restaurant after, Chirico was a trailblazer.

“I really took a chance at the time,” said the Naples-born businessman

who brought authentic, traditional Italian fare to Court Street. When the fine dining establishment opened in 1983, it got off to a slow start. Although now it sits in a trendy neighborhood, at

the time there was nothing like it, offering unfamiliar ingredients such as imported buffalo mozzarella, porcini mushrooms, and truffles.

Business was tough because customers were looking for simple plates, such as spaghetti and meatballs, and not the high-end menu originals like rack of lamb and oysters Rockefeller.

“They weren’t expecting that,” said the Italian cuisine pioneer.

But over the years, the elegant restaurant built a loyal clientele, and became a renowned establishment. It has made headlines for hosting stars such as Paul Rudd and Amy Poehler — and for its alleged mafia ties.

Chirico said that the restaurant’s fine cuisine and warm hospitality keep patrons coming back for more.

“Any customer who walks through that door, we’re gonna’ treat them like a friend,” he said, adding that the majority of his wait staff has worked for him for more than 25 years.

“We did something right,” Chirico said.

The celebratory bash even had a presentation on the history of Marco Polo by writer Giorgio Ceraudo.

Cop busted for DUI

By Natalie Musumeci
The Brooklyn Paper

An off-duty cop was arrested Downtown for getting behind the wheel after allegedly boozing it up

on the Fourth of July, cops said.

NYPD officer Elias Blunt was collared for drunk driving in the 84th Precinct, which also covers Brooklyn Heights and DUMBO,

at 6:05 pm on Thursday, police said.

Blunt was charged with driving under the influence and refusing to take a breathalyzer test after cops asked him to.

WATER...

Continued from page 1

ily slobber all over with a little help from a human — with six new fountains specifically designed for filling bottles to the top and carrying them away.

The five-foot-tall filling stations are designed to let water run vertically into a bottle held beneath it at the touch of a button. The new design allows parched park-goers to easily fill up their bottles instead of having to turn them on an angle, as they are forced to do at ordinary fountains (the filling stations also have a standard drinking fountain attached, so you can still just take a sip and continue your run).

Avid park-goer Anthony Elder said the fountains will revolutionize the way people drink water in the park.

“At the regular fountains,

you can only fill your bottle up halfway due to how shallow the basin is,” he said. “The top-down water delivery is much more intuitive for dealing with bottles, eliminating the frustration of having to fill up at a standard fountain.”

The fountains are made and donated by the company Smart Tap and are being installed by the Prospect Park Alliance, which hopes to convince park-goers that refilling bottles is cheaper — and better for the environment — than buying and throwing out containers of store-bought water.

“The bottle-filling stations encourage park-goers to carry reusable bottles and reduce the consumption of plastic water bottles,” said Alliance spokesman Paul Nelson.

The first Smart Tap fountain



Photo by Steve Solomonson

This will likely not happen at the new water fountains in Prospect Park designed specifically to fill up bottles or containers.

tain was installed last month in the greenspace next to the Nethermead. Five new stations — at Sixth Street and West Drive, near Field One in the Long Meadow ball fields,

along the East Drive across from the Peristyle, near Field Six at the Parade Ground, and at the Center Drive and East Drive intersection — will soon be installed.

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BOAT

Continued from page 1

city of Hoboken hit the ship with an eviction notice, said MacKenzie-Childs.

Desperate, the couple tried to negotiate with the mayor’s office to allow the boat to stay in Hoboken. But, in late June, they were told that the old ship had to leave for reasons that included electrical violations and other complaints.

With just days to find a new port big enough to hold the 150-foot-long vessel with three-decks, the boat owners went to the Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance. The Alliance was able to link up the owners with concrete titan John Quadrozzi Jr. of the Gowanus Bay Terminal. He allowed the crew to dock the boat on the Henry Street pier.

Even before an agreement was finalized, the vessel was tugged over to Red Hook last week because it was in such a dire situation, said MacKenzie-Childs.

After meeting Quadrozzi and viewing the neighborhood’s industrial waterfront, MacKenzie-Childs said that having Quadrozzi as a boat landlord was a perfect match.

“After we got here, we knew it was meant to be,” she said. “I want Red Hook to be as grateful to Yankee as Yankee is to Red Hook.”

Yankee will likely become a permanent fixture at the Gowanus Bay Terminal, said both Quadrozzi and MacKenzie-Childs.

The ferryboat has been revamped over the years and has even been used as a “boatel” for people to rent out rooms for overnight stays.

MacKenzie-Childs said that she hopes to create a public museum in the boat. She wants to have exhibits showing the history of the waterfront and the Yankee. The ship will offer free tours and MacKenzie-Childs said she plans to rent out the upper deck as a community and professional meeting space.



Photo by Elizabeth Graham



From left, SS Yankee owner Victoria MacKenzie-Childs and her boat crew Terin Izil, Aaron Maier, Pierre Travis, Josh Rasp, and Noel Leon, ferried their way over to Red Hook from Hoboken. The 107-year-old ferryboat with a rich history may make a permanent home at the Gowanus Bay Terminal.

vision for the waterfront matched that of MacKenzie-Childs.

Quadrozzi is also in talks with PortSide New York, the owner of the Mary A. Whalen, a Depression-era oil tanker, to have that boat moved permanently to the Columbia Street pier.

“My hope is that the public can become educated by having these vessels along Columbia Street,” he said.

TOWER...

Continued from page 1

troland and operated it until its demise.

On July 2, an unknown Coney Island visitor reported that the Astro Tower was swaying in the wind. The witness’s emergency call caused a panic and the Fire and Buildings departments evacuated Luna Park in order to investigate. Much of the People’s Playground was shut down for the next 48 hours.

A Luna Park spokesman downplayed the danger that afternoon, arguing the tower was designed to bend in the breeze. The spokesman suggested that the person who

reported the leaning tower had been overzealous.

“Not sure why there is a problem here,” the spokesman said.

But the next day, the city began talking with the fun zone’s management about dismantling the structure.

The leaning tower also forced the closure of Wonder Wheel Park on W. 12th Street on July 3. However, Wonder Wheel’s owner Dennis Vourderis said he did not think the Astro Tower’s swaying had been especially severe.

“It didn’t seem any worse than usual, and I’ve only been here 43 years,” the amusement owner said at the time.



Photo by Arthur De Gueta

The 51-year-old, 270-foot-tall Astro Tower, the last remnant of Astroland, was reduced to a puny stump on July 4.

Vourderis’ father bought the park’s eponymous Ferris wheel in 1983, after owning a nearby concession stand for more than a decade.

Both Luna Park and Wonder Wheel Park re-opened on Independence Day, but Luna had to tear the tower down.



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Ava DeAngelis lives it up at the party in Shore Road Park.

Bay Ridge celebrates the 4th

By Will Bredderman
The Brooklyn Paper

Nobody celebrates Independence Day like Bay Ridge!

Brooklyn's most patriotic neighborhood rang in the 237th anniversary of America's birth with its sixth-annual Fourth of July picnic in Shore Road Park.

Some 2,000 people poured into the greenspace's 82nd

Street Field even as the heat index flirted with 100 degrees. As a line-up of six local bands rocked out on-stage, adults guzzled liquids and children danced in the sprinklers.

"It was hot, but we had enough water and kept everybody hydrated," said organizer Chip "Festival Guy" Cafiero.

Cafiero handed out to

attendees more than \$1,000 worth of gift certificates to be redeemed at Bay Ridge businesses. And hundreds of raffle tickets were sold with proceeds going to the 68th Precinct Community Council and the Southwest Brooklyn Parks Task Force.

The highlight of the 10-hour event, according to Cafiero, was a performance by tenor Daniel Rodriguez, a

New York City police officer who was two blocks away from the World Trade Center on 9-11, and became famous as a singer in the days and weeks afterward. Rodriguez enthralled the crowd with performances of "The Star-Spangled Banner" and "God Bless the U.S.A."

"The whole crowd, everybody had goosebumps," said Cafiero. "I had people crying, falling over with emotion."

The concert wrapped up with 15 members from the different bands wowing the audience with a patriotic jam session on John Mellencamp's "Little Pink Houses" and several Bob Dylan songs.

"They mixed it up good," said Cafiero. "Everybody was wild, waving flags."



Elsie Willumsen and Julie Bergland of Bay Ridge came out in full patriotic garb.

LICH...

Continued from page 1

state is diverting patients from the hospital, she said, nurses have some downtime, making these classes possible.

But why the exercise classes? It's simply because the hospital staff could use some endorphins right now, she said.

"This is a very stressful time for the community, for the nurses, for the caregivers, so this is a time to work together to do something positive while still keeping up the fight to keep the hospital open," Bates said.

A Brooklyn Supreme Court judge who temporarily forbade the school from taking any action to close down the hospital said that the State University was likely in contempt of court. The state university, however, said that it needed to shut down emergency room service because there weren't enough doctors at Long Island College Hospital to provide adequate care.

The State University of New York will have to prove that it is not breaking a court order at its next hearing, scheduled for July 15.

DEATH...

Continued from page 1

rail was injured by a less-severe shock and is currently at Woodhull in stable condition.

Police say the two friends were in the Broadway station of the G train in Williamsburg when they decided to jump onto the track bed to urinate.

The men were walking north in the southbound track bed when a train started coming in the other direction. The pair panicked and Zeno fell onto the third rail, police said.

Other news outlets erroneously reported that the Bedford-Stuyvesant man died from peeing on the third rail, but police said there was no indication that was the case.

In fact, "Mythbusters" proved that it is almost impossible for someone to electrocute themselves by peeing on the third rail.

Police said both men had been drinking before the incident. Zeno's Facebook page shows that he had checked in at both the Gotham City Lounge and Bed-Vyne Brew in the hours before his death.

JAWS...

Continued from page 1

with 51 hot dogs, setting his own personal record, but well short of champion.

Sonya "The Black Widow" Thomas won her fourth-straight title on the women's side, albeit by more nail-biting means. Thomas fell behind to Juliet Lee by five whole franks, but stormed back in the final minutes to beat her by three-quarters of a hot dog. Thomas finished with 36 and three-quarters hot dogs and buns compared to Lee's 36.

The Brooklyn Paper

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PARENT

Preparing girls for a man's world

Back when my daughters were very little, a mom in our playgroup explained to me how her father had insisted on teaching her to play poker and shoot a gun before she left home. This story inspired me to start my own list of the things I thought my daughters should know before heading into the world.

I'm not talking about things such as balancing a checkbook, making a bed, or other important skills that anyone can teach them.

I was looking for those things that, in our family, my daughters were only go-

ing to learn from me. Playing poker was one, so when they were old enough I pulled out my grandfathers' sets of chips and cards and my girls learned to play five-card draw and blackjack. What started out as making fun designs with red, white, and blue chips evolved into a basic understanding of gambling, culminating with my kids watching Texas hold'em championships on TV.

Sports were also on my checklist, both understanding the big four—baseball, basketball, football, and hockey—but also being comfortable going to live games and nav-

igating the often beer- and testosterone-laden atmosphere.

Now, as my oldest is getting ready to head off to college, it is time to finish crossing off the items, the last two of which are driving a stick-shift and playing pool.

I certainly know women who have each of these skills, but I know so many more who weren't taken to ball games as a kid because dads did things like that with their sons. One



The Dad
By Scott Sager

of my sisters had to discover hockey on her own and find ways to scavenge tickets and make do with public transportation to see the Black-hawks play.

Today, when I take my daughters to CitiField to watch the hapless Mets, there are more men toting their lit-

tle girls around, stuffing them with popcorn and soda while yelling at the disappointing plays on the field. It is a great sight to see more dads sharing their interests with daughters than in years past, but it is still not universal.

Among my wife's generation, there are still social roadblocks to advancement. I know women who took up golf so they wouldn't be excluded from those informal but oh-so-important business interactions when the guys head out to the links. There are still companies that offer a choice of events on team building retreats, such

as ropes courses or a softball game, which most of the guys do, and spa treatments or a museum tour, presumably for the gals.

In the end, I don't really care if my daughters chose a mani-pedi instead of taking their turn swinging a bat, so long as they feel they have the choice. If my girls can sit in a group with a hot dog and a beer, or even a veggie wrap and a Diet Coke, comfortably watching Eli Manning throw another touchdown, I've done my job, because what I have to offer, as a dad, are the tools to enter that world of men.

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